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(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: CARLYLE, Wenda [US/US]; PO Box 563, Silverado, CA 92676-0563 (US).

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(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): TREMBLE, Patrice [US/US]; 3116, Luna Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95405 (US).

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(74) Agent: JARO, Michael, J.; IP Legal Department, 3576 Unocal Place, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 (US).

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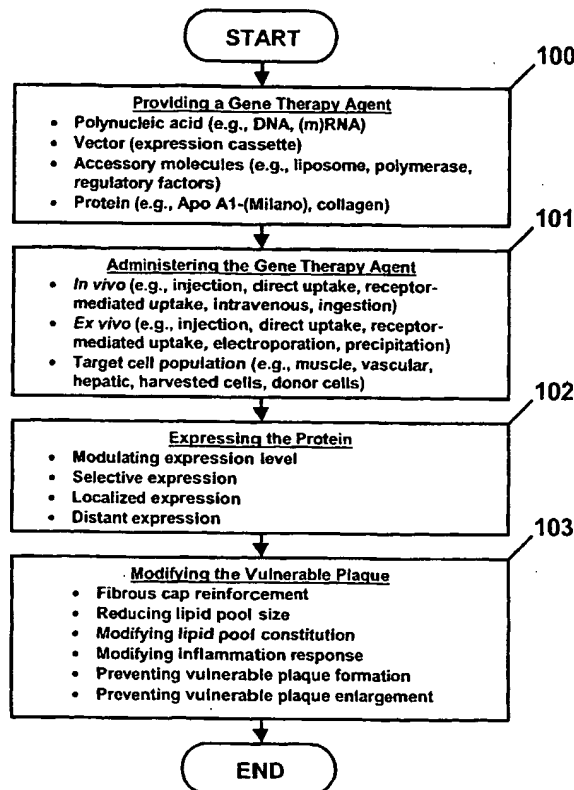
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(54) Title: METHOD AND AGENT FOR TREATING VULNERABLE PLAQUE



(57) Abstract: A method and gene therapy agent for treating a vulnerable plaque associated with a blood vessel of a patient is disclosed. The method includes providing at least one gene therapy agent encoding at least one protein. The gene therapy agent is administered to a target cell population. The protein is expressed within the patient from a portion of the target cell population. The vulnerable plaque is modified as a result of the protein expression. The gene therapy agent includes at least one polynucleic acid encoding at least one protein. Administration of the gene therapy agent to a target cell population results in expression of the protein capable of modifying the vulnerable plaque.

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